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AN 'ARMISTICE GRANTED. SPAIN TAKES ANOTHER STEP.

ACTS AT THE REQUEST OF THE POPE AND THE EUROPEAN POWERS.

INSTRUCTIONS SENT FROM MADRID TO GENERAL BLANCO TO CARRY INTO EFFECT THE DE-CISION OF THE SPANISH CABINET-ALLEGED CONDITIONS OF

THE TRUCE.

Madrid. April 9 .- A visit of the Foreign Ambassaders to Sener Gullon, Minister of Foreign Affairs, resulted in a meeting of the Cabinet, at which a decision was reached to grant an armistice to the insurgents in Cuba.

United States Minister Woodford has been

General Woodford has no information relative to the withdrawal of the American warships. This afternoon General Woodford paid a visit

to Seffor Gullon, Minister of Foregn Affairs.

The general opinion this evening is that today's occurrences settle satisfactorily the first stage of the Spanish-American difficulty, and insure reace.

The Ministers, on being questioned this evenregarding the negotiations, but it is not concluded immediately the United States is to withdraw all moral and material support

It is believed that the presentation of President McKinley's message to Congress will be again postponed, the "Epoca" thinks, until Fri-

"El Correo" (official) says:

"White America asked for an armistice, Spain refused; but to the voice of Europe and the Pope, even Spain, without dishonor, may accept the arrangement proposed, in the interests

Seflor Gullon, requesting that Spain grant the and Admiral Bermejo, Minister of Mathe ground that it would be disparaging to the The representative of Russia, as offering to the insurgents a last chance of submission for the sake of negotiating peace. If the insurgents continued hostilities the Spanlards would be allowed legitimate self-defence.

by the usual solemnity of the drafting of the minutes, which the entire Ministry signed

London, April 10.-A dispatch from Madrid received this morning says that Señor Gullon, telegrams from Washington, immediately went to the house of Senor Sagasta, the Premier, net Council was held, and the Prime Minister said that the Ambassadors of the Powers had asked Spain to grant an armistice, with a view of allowing negotiations for a settlement of the

The Council had a long and anxious discus-sion, during which Senor Sagasta went out and consulted with the Queen Regent, and it was finally decided to grant an armistice which should last five days, upon the following conditions: That the United States should immediately cease to lend moral and material support to the Cuban insurgents; that the American squadron in the vicinity of Cuba should be withdrawn, and that American war vessels near the Philippine Islands also should be with-

If the United States decline these conditions it is declared that the Powers will openly lend

their support to Spain. The correspondent in Madrid of a news agency here says that if the insurgents shall not have laid down their arms by the end of five days the war will be resumed, and Spain will re-

ceive the moral support of the Powers. Paris, April 9.-A dispatch has been received from Madrid saying that an armistice has been arranged and war between Spain and the United States has been for the moment averted. The diplomats are very much pleased with this re-

The dispatch also says that M. Patenotre, the French Ambassador to Spain, had a long conerence yesterday with United States Minister

CUBANS WILL NOT CEASE FIGHTING. ABSOLUTE INDEPENDENCE THE ONLY SOLUTION

Washington, D. C., April 9.-Mr. Quesada, the representative of the Cuban Junta in this city. said to-night:

"The Cubans are glad to see their belligerency at last recognized by the Spanish Government. Cubans will not cease fighting nor enter into any negotiations which gave not for their basis the absolute independence of the island of

QUEEN REGENT MAY RETURN TO AUS-TRIA. PREPARATIONS TO RECEIVE HER IF FORCED TO

London, April 9.—The Vienna correspondent of "The Daily Telegraph" says:

"How seriously the situation is understood here to be is shown by the fact that Court circles already believe that Queen Regent Christina may soon return to her native land.

Suitable preparations are already making at the palace of her brother, Archduke Lugen." MAINE'S FAMOUS POLAND WATER purity itself. New-York depot, 3 Park Pl.-(Advt.

PRESIDENT INFORMED OF THE GRANT- IN CASE OF WAR AMERICAN RELIEF SUP-ING OF THE ARMISTICE

THE MESSAGE TO GO TO CONGRESS MONDAY, JUST THE SAME-MUCH SPECULATION AS TO THE

ceived a cable dispatch from Minister Woodford and ernment to this Government. None the less, it | possibly a month. of a peaceful solution of the pending difficulty.

great Powers, they (the Spanish Govern. resulted in any change of the Administration's | a large scale. The food that has been sent by nounced to-night that it was the intention of emergency. Much of it that was not perishable proclamation to-morrow, the duration of the the President to send his message to Congress has been sent on Monday. Whether he will make any addition | it is most needed. to the message referring to the proposed armistice by Spain could not be ascertained definitely velopment of this character would receive at tention at the President's hands, although it could not be learned to-night that this attention will be more than a recital of the facts. After who are in the confidence of the President extice would not materially change the policy as stored in quantities it will unquestionably be leaders, and as that assent could hardly be sepressed the belief that the granting of the armis already matured.

One of those who had a long conference with that the proposed armistice tended materially withdrawal of the American squadrons | toward a peaceful solution of the Cuban quesfrom Cuba and the Philippines. If the war is | tion, although he declined to venture even a suggestion as to how the proposition would be received by Congress.

The Maine incident will still be left for solu tion," said he, "and that is the question upor which Congress and the country are at the

present moment exceedingly sensitive. Word that the armistice had been granted b Spain spread rapidly through all official and diplomatic quarters, and aroused great interest and activity throughout the evening. The first word as to Spain's concession came to Monsignor Martinelli, the Papal Delegate, at 6:30 p. and announced from the Vatican that the Papa Nuncia at Madrid had been advised that an armistice was granted. Monsigner Martinelli sent for Archbishop Ireland, and shortly after the message from the Vatican was repeated by telephone to the White House. About the sam time the dispatch from Minister Woodford was Singularly, the Spanish Minister, up to midnight. M. Cambon, the French Minis ter who had been foremost in urging the pacific influence of the Powers, was also with out direct official notification. At all the embassles and Legations, however, the armistics a military power, replied that he considered it was accepted as an accomplished fact, and there were mutual congratulations in diplomatic quarters over this result, and the expression of be-

lief that it was an augury of peace ost essential feature of Spain's concession pension of hostilities, and insisted upon Spain | tional grant of armistice. Later, however, the press advices from Madrid and London stated conditions of a very material character. leave the crisis quite as acute as it has been at The Ministry then unanimously agreed that an any time heretofore. A Cabinet officer said regranted. The decision was attended | cently that the Administration had never sition would meet with any serious con-

The fact that Spain has granted this armistice as the result of influence exerted by the great Powers of Europe and the Pope leads to much conjecture as to how far the material influences of the Powers will be given in support of Spain, now that she has yielded to their carneat solicitation. It has been understood thus far that the movement of the Powers was purely disinterested and neutral, but the press dispatches from abroad indicate that Spain's yielding to these Continental influences had established a cable dispatch from Halifax announcing that the Talbot and two other British cruisers have been ordered here. The increase of the fleet and the British forces in the island are connected in unofficial minds with the existing relations between Spain and the United States.

ANOTHER INCREASE OF THE NAVY.

SENATE SUB-COMMITTEE PROMISES TO ADD FOUR decided to draft and report a resolution identi-

Assistant Secretary Day was non-committal to-night on the armistice granted by Spain and refused to discuss it or the bearing it would

with the conditions suggested by Spain it is felt here that a new and even graver crisis may arise. Coming late at night, there is no opportunity to judge how the Spanish conditions will be received by Congress, but in view of the sentiment of the Senate and House it is felt the conditions proposed by Spain way ac-

THE VISIT OF THE AMBASSADORS. THROUGH IT WAS MADE KNOWN TO EUROPE THE PURPOSE OF THE PRESIDENT

Paris. April 9 .- It is officially announced here that the visit of the Ambassadors at Washington to President McKinley on Thursday was arranged at the request of President McKinley primarily, in order to give the President the opportunity of making known to Europe the necessity for the intervention of the United States

TWO SPANISH CRUISERS LEAVE CADIZ. TO JOIN THE TORPEDO PLOTILLA AT THE CAPE VERD ISLANDS.

Washington, April 9.-Two of the Spanish cruisers which have been with the fleet at Cadiz have left that place for the Cape Verd Islands, where one of the torpedo fleets is rendezvoused. This information came to the Navy Department to-day. The two vessels are the Cristobal Colon and the Infanta Maria Teresa, both armored cruisers. The information in possession of the Navy Department is that only a portion of the original torpedo fleet that left Spain and the Canarles, presumably for Porto Rico, reached the Cape Verd Islands.

A rumor was received at the Navy Lenartment to-day that Captain Sampson's squadron at Key West had sailed from that place. Secretary Long, when asked about the matter, refused to discuss it in any way.

WOODFORD NOT FORMALLY RECALLED. HIS PURPOSE IS TO REMAIN IN MADRID SO LONG AS HE CAN BE OF SERVICE

Washington, April 9.-It is said at the State Department that Minister Woodford has not been actually recalled, but has received full discretion to govern his movements by the progress of events at the Spanish capital. Under his instructions it will not be necessary formally to recall him. He has informed the Department that he will remain at his post of duty so long as there is any possibility of rendering any seras there is any possibility of rendering any service to his Government, and consequently, unless the conditions at Madrid endanger his personal safety, it is more than probable that he will remain there up to the beginning of hostillities. It is understood here that General Woodford is personally popular in the Spanish capital, and that the authorities would leave nothing undone to insure his safety, even after war with the country he represents begins. Should it become necessary, General Woodford and the members of his official family will have the protection of the British Embassy until they can leave Madrid without molestation.

PLIES WOULD BE SEIZED BY

THE SPANISH.

INT TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. Havana, April 8, via Tampa, April 9.-Interest is naturally taken in the fate of the reconcentrades in case of war between the United States and Spain. This class would inevitably suffer, it is the kind of suffering for which it is at Madrid to-night announcing that the Spanish | prepared and which it will gladly endure. One-Government had granted an armistice for Cuba. | half of Cuba is a desert, which is not producing In making this announcement Mr. Woodford enough to sustain its inhabitants; of the reconveyed it as a piece of news in which this | mainder the insurgents occupy the greater por-The sea coast towns have provisions official communication from the Spanish Gov- enough to last, under ordinary circumstances, conveyed the essential fact that Spain had con- so well supplied. Few of them have more than ceded what the Powers of Europe and the Pope a fortnight's supply ahead. If the ports should had for many days been urging upon her, and be blockaded, the food on the island would be that the concession dispelled for the moment the stretched beyond the normal period. But a darkness of the war clouds and brought in their | merciful regard for the population that has alstead what was regarded as at least a faint hope | ready endured so much would call for a speedy The receipt of this news has not, however, | ment of the Army Commissary Department on directly through the hands of local officials with-Where these are friendly to the Cubans the food will reach those for whom it is meant, even after war begins. Where they are ultra-Spanish little inevitably finds its way to the Spanish soldiers, the conference at the White House to-night, men | who are not much better fed than reconcentrades.

ties. An impression seems to obtain in some the President to-night expressed the opinion places that the distribution of supplies would under the American Red Cross, because the Spanish Government would be bound to recognize the society under the Geneva agreement, to which it was a party along with other countries. This is a weak reliance. The Spanish Red Cross has already resented the effort to have the American society superintend the disteen recognized as belligerents they have had the benefit of the Red Cross services. That condition could not prevail if Spain through that agency. In Havana, where the entire city poor is fed by American relief, the distribution of the supplies on hand might be left with those who are now in charge of it, but this is doubtful. When war is once begun, the Spanish officials will concern themselves very little with feeding any portion of the Cuban

> A VENTURESOME SEA CAPTAIN. THE SKIPPER OF THE ELEAZER W. CLARK DE-

CLINED TO LEAVE A CURAN PORT Kingston, Jamaica, April 9.- When United States Consul Hyatt left Santiago de Cuba on one vessel, the American schooner Elenzer W. Clark, of Portland, Me., was in the harbor with eight hundred tons of coal for the Consul Hyatt warned the captain of the schooper to leave without discharging his The captain said, however, he would

stay and take the chances. Consul Hyatt and Dr. Calmanero, the hospital espector stationed at Santiago de Cuba, came here from Port Antonio to-day, and both resened to await instructions from Washington. Mr. Hyatt says that his withdrawal from San-

Sir Augustus Hemming, the Governor Jamaica, has received a cable dispatch from

fore the naval sub-committee of the Senate Committee on Appropriations to-day, and, in response to a request for his opinion, recommended that three or four harbor-defence vessels be provided for, in addition to the other Items of increase of the Navy carried by the bill as it passed the House. He said he thought the vessels could be completed for \$2,000,000 each. The Secretary opposed the proposition to substitute these vessels for one of the three battle-ships carried by the House bill, saying that if they were to be provided for at all they should be in addition, leaving the bill otherwise

The sub-committee concluded consideration of the bill before adjournment. The principal additions to the portions of the bill providing for the increase of the Navy were the following: Four monitors for coast and harbor defence, \$5,000,000; four torpedo-boat destroyers, \$1,200,-

These appropriations are for the vessels with-These appropriations are for the vessels with-out arms or armament, and it is believed that they will be sufficient for the purposes indicated.

THE TOPEKA AND THE SOMERS SAIL FIFTEEN FIREMEN FROM THE ST. PAUL SECURED FOR THE CRUISER

Weymouth, Eng., April 9.-The United States cruiser Topeka (formerly the Diogenes), Lieutenant John J. Knapp in command, and the United States torpedo-boat Somers, commanded by Ensign C. W. Hazelton, sailed this morning

for the United States. Fifteen firemen for the Topeka were obtained from the American Line steamer St. Paul, at Southampton. All the men on board the St. Paul were eager to join the cruiser. The firemen were taken to Weymouth on a tug by the United States Consul, and were put on board the Topeka at 6:30 yesterday evening.

The Somers previous to sailing shipped a steel hawser, and a turn was taken around her in case it may be necessary for the Topeka to

GENERAL LEE CALLED TO WASHINGTON.

ashington, April 9 (Special).-Consul-General Lee has been directed to come to Washington at once and to reach here if possible on Monday. Captain Sampson has been ordered to Monday. Captain Sampson has been ordered to expedite his journey, if necessary, by sending him to Miami or Tampa on a torpedo-boat. General Lee will go before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee as soon as he has had a conference with the President. It is considered probable that he will reach Washington before the President sends his message to Congress.

WASHINGTON GETS THE NEWS. PERIL OF THE RECONCENTRADOS. SPAIN GRASPS AT STRAWS. GEN. LEE LEAVES HAVANA, THE NEWS OF TWO CAPITALS

PARTIAL ELEVENTH-HOUR CONCESSIONS

NOT LIKELY TO AVERT WAR. NEITHER THE UNITED STATES NOR THE INSUR

GENTS WOULD CONSENT TO A MERE TEM-PORARY TRUCK IN CUBA-HARMO

> BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT CALLY ASSURED.

for responsed to the TRIBUNE Washington, April 9.-Talk from Madrid today of certain eleventh-hour concessions to the demands of the United States which the Sagasta Cabinet had been considering lightened with a vague tinge of optimism the belief, already accepted here, that the virtues of diplomacy have been exhausted and that an open rupture between Spain and this country is now this talk about Spain's purpose to abandon at the last moment the feeble shadow of her soverthat the Ministry was on the point of announce ing an armistice with the insurgents, with a

Spanish authorities alone could make willingness to grant it, serious importance might which included the arranging of a truce f it will go to the starving. Some of the food | the opening of full and free negotiations with tablishment of order and civil Government in the Island. But as no armistice can be proclaimed If hostilities break out wherever the food is or enforced without the assent of the rebel seized and confiscated by the Spanish authori- cured now under any circumstances, the hollowness of the Spanish Cabinet's rumored scheme of concession and compromise, and its powerlessness to check or satisfy the peremptory demand of this country for the definite termina tion of Spanish military or civil rule in Cuba become on closer consideration painfully appar

scarcely be deterred from adhering to the policy | tor in future events. the early stages, or until Cuba was actually first and surest guarantee of the restoration of generally observed at all the churches. The order there. If the time has come to defend services began at 10 o'clock with beil-ringing, The food would not be distributed in Cuba, intervention will be no less opportune tress of Cabanas, announcing the solemnity of and necessary simply because the two factions agree to a temporary truce

No change, therefore, has occurred or seems likely to occur in the attitude this country has taken toward Cuba and Spain Intervention, to be succeeded by a display of force and by actual hostilities perhaps for a brief period, is still the settled programme of the Administration, which does not look with any confidence to a diplomatic surrender on Spain's part. Such a surrender is perhaps still vaguely possible, but no one in Administration circles s

President's view that recognition of the independence and sovereignty of the present insurrectionary Government is for the present un desirable and inexpedient. Senator Clark, of THE EXODUS FROM CUBA-BURIAL OF GUNNER'S Wyoming, a member of the committee who has seen strongly in favor a talk with the President to-day, and subsequently declared himself satisfied that intervention should come first and recognition after-

cal with that reported to the Senate, so that the Republican le ders are now hopeful that the same unity and harmony may characterize the action of Congress next week on the President's Cuban recommendations as marked its impressive response to his appeal for funds six weeks ago with which to put the country into a proper

state of defence. CONSULS NOT ORDERED FROM SPAIN. THE STATE DEPARTMENT GIVES THEM PERMIS SION TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY

IF THEY DESIRE.

Washington, April 9.-Permission has been given by the State Department to the United States consuls in Spain to leave that country if | The schooner Daisy Farlin, from New-York, they so desire pending the threat-ned severance this country. They have not been ordered to leave that country, as such a step is not retween the two nations, but they are permitted to exercise their discretion in the matter. The of doing so. papers and furniture, will be turned over to representatives of some friendly government. As Great Britain has authorized her consular officers in Cuba to take charge of the effects of all United States consulates there, it is presumed that like authority will be given to English consular officers in Spain. So far as the of-ficials here have been advised, none of the consuls have left their posts yet.

NO MORE PURCHASES ABROAD. TIME TOO SHORT TO ALLOW OF TRANSPORTATION

Berlin, April 9.-Lieutenant A. P. Niblack, the United States raval attaché here and at Rome is awaiting orders to proceed to Italy again. Europe, has received authority to issue instructions to all the United States naval attaches in Europe, according to the requirements of the THE BRITISH STEAMER ZAFIRO BOUGHT. situation. In fact, there is even a possibility UNITED STATES OFFICIALS ADDING TO THE that they may all be called home.

On strictly trustworthy authority it is learned that all the United States naval attachés have been ordered to end their negotiations for the purchase of warships, munitions of war, etc. The reason for this is that the time is regarded | Zafiro. as too short to allow of the transportation of the declared. The same authority says heavy purchases have been made of war material, the ture of which is kept a profound secret, but which, in the event of hostilities, will play a most important role.

THE OREGON SAILS FROM LIMA. probable that he will reach Washington before the President sends his message to Congress.

THE RED, WHITE AND BLUE and all sweet melodies are sweeter still if played on KRELL planca, 17s Fifth-ave. (22d St.)—Advt.

TOO LATE FOR AN ARMISTICE. SAILS WITH HIS STAFF ON THE FERN FOR KEY WEST.

> FLAG HAULED DOWN FROM THE CONSULATE AND THE INTERESTS OF AMERICANS PLACED IN THE HANDS OF THE BRITISH CONSUL-

Havana, April 9.-United States Consul-General Lee and his staff, with Consuls Springer and Barker, left Havana at 6 o'clock to-night on the lighthouse tender Fern. The wharf was crowded, but no discourtesy was shown.

At 10 o'clock this morning General Lee, accompanied by British Consul Gollan, called on General Blanco to bid him goodby. The Governor-General was very busy and could not receive General Lee

The American flag upon the consulate building was taken down by consular employes.

All is quiet in Havana. Walter B. Barker, the United States Consul at Sagua la Grande, arrived here from his post this morning. He was sent for by a private

leaving port. The Spanish tug Susle towed out the schooner James H. Dudley, which arrived the bank reserves, but cannot be explained here on Thursday last from Pensacola with lum- away on monetary grounds. r, but did not discharge her cargo.

The steamer Evelyn followed with about fifty passengers, and after her came the Olivette, with 247 passengers, among whom were Miss Clara | war except by bringing tremendous pressure to Barton and the other representatives of the Red Cross Society who have engaged in relief work in the island. She was followed by the Bache, with ten passengers, and last of all came the Fern, which left at 6 o'clock, having on | ing a compromise so humiliating to the National board Consul-General Lee, Consuls Springer and Barker, Consular Clerks Fosca, Dolz and Drain, and Messrs, Johnstone, Pepper, Redding, Akers, Franke, Dunning, Nichols and Scovel, newspaper correspondents; G. Lawton Childs, William Lawton and Dr. Brumer. The Fern is tribute-paying Egypt, or a considerable portion Ensinn Powelson was also on board.

There was shipped to-day by the steamer Orlzaba \$424,000 in French gold for New-York. Alexander C. Brice, the United States Consul

at Matanzas, is supposed to have left that place

Alexander Gollan, the British Consul here Evan were the insurgent leaders to accept the is ready to take charge of American interests talked of offer of a truce, to be followed by ne- | so far as allowed. Mr. Gollan is likely to rise gotiations for peace, the United States would to the occasion, and may be an important fac-

absolutely-the policy which insists upon the tropical day, with the sky blue and the atexpulsion of the Spaniards from Cuba as the mosphere not too warm. Holy Saturday was accompanied by cannon salutes from the Forthe occasion. The bishop officiated at the high which have reduced the island to anarchy think | mass which was celebrated at the cathedral. it expedient to acknowledge exhaustion and to The service was accompanied by the singing of "Gloria in Excelsis Deo," in remembrance of the resurrection of the Saviour, during which the movement of coaches, carts, etc., in the streets of Havana was suspended. Later on the Cuban capital resumed the ordinary

The news of the American consuls leaving their posts spread rapidly about the city, and Elswick and the Argentine armored cruised are taking things coolly, and are awaiting of the Navy. Commander Brownson has wisely future developments with serenity. They quote exercised his discretion and, while he has no many prominent people as saying there is no ships to show for his laborious campaign of inimportance in the action of the consuls.

KEY WEST CROWDED. MATE JOHNSON

ere unless needed to bring Americans over from

here this morning from Tampa, and was held vessel is small and was obtained at a low price. here to relieve the crush when the exodus to the and there is very little room for newcomers Nine of the engineer corps from Willet's Point arrived this afternoon on the steamer City of

adet Boyd, one of the Maine survivors, also arrived, having been transferred to the flagship. The Ward Line steamer Seneca, bound from Progreso, Mexico, for New-York, will be stopped at Sand Key Light, off Key West, and sent to

Havana to bring away refugees, if necessary, at the request of the Government. The Cincinnati will take the patrol duty to-

Gunner's Mate Johnson, of the Newport, who day, was buried this morning in Key West Cemetery, where many of the Maine martyrs rest. The funeral procession was composed of thirty-four sailors from Newport, led by outcers, The services were brief. Johnson was popular,

arrived this afternoon with S and 10 inch guns of all diplomatic relations between Spain and and 12-inch mortars for the batteries here. Disappearing guns will also be placed in Fort | eral tone of the press, which remains remark-Taylor, and when the work is completed the city will be practically impregnable. The fleet has not moved and shows no signs

COAL FOR UNITED STATES WARSHIPS. A THOUSAND TONS REACHES ST. THOMAS ON THE

Charlotte Amaile, Island of St. Thomas, April 9.—The strict press censorship exercised by the Spanish authorities in Porto Rico prevents the sending of any important news from that island, but steamers from Porto Rico are expected here

next week, and some interesting information may be obtainable. The schooner Southard has arrived here with one thousand tons of coal for the use of the warships of the United States. She is at anchor

here awaiting orders. The French Admiral in these waters, with two warships, is awaiting developments at this port. Commander Willard H. Brownson, the agent A French gunboat left here yesterday under of the United States Navy Department in sealed orders. Report has it that she is bound

FLEET IN THE EAST-INSURGENTS

HOLD CEBU Hong Kong, April 9 .- The United States officials here have purchased the British steamer

Advices received here from Manila say the purchases to the United States before war is Philippine insurgents are in possession of Cebu, one of the Philippine Islands.

> The Zafiro is of 1.062 tons gross register. She is brigantine-rigged, 213 feet 7 inches long, has 31 feet inches beam and draws 21 feet 3 inches of water. The steamer was built at Aberdeen in 1884, and was owned by the China and Manila Steamship Company, Limited (Shewan & Co., Hong Kong).

24 HOURS OF SOLID COMFORT can be had on the limited trains of the New-York Cantral Between New-York and the West every day in the year. See time-table, this paper.—Advt. | Lloyd predicts in "The Statist" the financial collapse and utter ruin of Spain if the sword be

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

LONDON.

FINANCIERS AND DIPLOMATS ACCEPT WAR AS THE EASIEST SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM.

PREDICTIONS OF HEAVY LOSS TO AMERI-CAN TRADE AND THE RUIN OF SPAIN

> IN THE EVENT OF HOSTILITIES-NEARLY ALL AMERICAN WAR MATERIAL SHIPPED.

> > [BY CARLE TO THE TRIBUNE.]

London April 9.-American affairs fill the pauses of the Easter holidays. There is little in the papers except dispatches from Washington and Madrid and judgments upon them may hold for twenty-four hours. possibly not more than twelve. The increase in the bank rate is a distinct sign of war in a quarter where the belief in the maintenance of At 5:30 o'clock the American vessels began | peace has been strongest. The advance is justified by the outflow of gold and the condition of interview between the President and the Diplomatic Corps has been to convince the public here that the European Powers cannot prevent bear upon the Spanish Government to maintain peace by an immediate concession of amnesty based upon the independence of Cuba. Whether any Government can stand in Spain after makpride is a question which no sane Englishman attempts to answer. Whether any scheme of compensation for the loss of the last Spanish stronghold in the New World can be devised by which Cuba can be transformed into another of its debt can be assumed under an American guaranty, is another inscrutable mystery. The difficulties in the way of peace baffle the diplomatic resources of the writers here, and give warning that the situation has become unman ageable, with war as the easiest solution

> Everything which has been purchased in Europe for the American Government is now affoat or already delivered in the United States except the Brazilian cruiser unfinished on the Tyne. All the rapid-fire guns and other war material bought in England have been shipped, and the third cruiser purchased, which has been renamed the Topeka, has started on her voyage across the Atlantic. The torpedo-boat bought in Europe has also gone. Neutrality laws cannot now be invoked to prevent the shipment of any of this material or the sailing of any vessel except the Albany when finished.

Lieutenant Colwell, upon whom the bulk of this work has fallen, has broken down under it and has gone to Paris to recruit his health. He has been working with great intelligence and zeal. Commander Brownson returned to London yesterday from the Continent; he has not bought torpedo-boats in Italy, as has been reported, nor made any additions to the American Navy. The only ships which he considered worth buying were the Chillan O'Higgins at produced considerable surprise. The matter building in Italy, and these could not be purwas talked about generally, and the remark, chased. He has made a rapid but exhaustive "Well, let them go," was heard here and there, survey of English, French and Italian yards. The Spaniards say the fact of the consuls leav- and found no other ships sufficiently advanced ing has not produced the effect which the to justify their purchase. He did not consider friends of the insurgents are alleged to have it worth while to bid for small warships which expected. The Spanish patriots also say they would have added little to the fighting power spection, he has done his work well and surveyed the ground with good judgment. Japan, Chill and the Argentine Republic would not sell the few ships which he wanted; otherwise he found no ships in the market which would be of real value. As the final result of this competi-Key West, April 9. The Mangrove will remain | tion for the purchase of warships Spain has secured the Garibaldi and the United States Lieutenant Colwell's three cruisers the New-The Ward Line steamship Margaret arrived | Orleans, the Albany and the Topeka. The last

The question whether vessels under a neutral North begins. Key West is already crowded, flag will be liable to seizure by the belligerent navies is discussed in nearly all the journals; there is general agreement that the right of search cannot be questioned, and that ships can be taken into a Spanish port if contraband of war be found on board. As shipments of munitions of war will not be allowed by the companies, passengers en transatiantie lines will not be in any danger in the event of war; passengers certainly cannot be taken off as in the Trent affair. It is not considered likely that any English, French or German ship will be overhauled by Spanish cruisers. The American iner sails to-day as usual, and the Campania from Liverpool. The English press forecasts heavy losses for the American merchant marine in consequence of war, since Spanish cruisers and privateers under letters of marque are certain to hunt for prizes and do much damage to shipping interest by guerilla warfare.

> have England as their best friend in Europa. This is certain alike from the conduct of the Foreign Office, which will do nothing to embarrass the United States, and also from the genably sympathetic and friendly. This is entirely apart from such startling charges of Spanish complicity in the loss of the Maine as appear in to-day's "Daily Mail." There is only one opinion here, namely, that the American Government has shown remarkable forbearance in dealing with the Cuban question, and that nothing can be said in extenuation of Spanish methods of administration and warfare in the island. Not one word of criticism of McKinley is heard here; he is generally and warmly praised for his selfrestraint and dignity, for the best qualities of effective leadership and for not talking lightly of

Well-informed financiers explain the raising of the bank rate as the natural result of the serious drain of gold and the general apprehension that it would continue, owing to the probable collapse of diplomatic negotiations at Madrid. They still hope for the maintenance of peace, but can give no better grounds for their optimism than the Queen Regent's aversion to war and the fact that the unexpected has happened at every turn of the Spanish-American crisis. The feeling to-day in the Street has been more sanguine in consequence of private advices from Paris and Madrid that the Spanish Government was already inclined to meet America more than half way, but this confidence is faint-hearted. A heavy fall in American securities in the event of war is not expected by clear-headed financiers here, nor any derangement of American credit. There is a general conviction that the railways will profit by increased business and a united country at the end of the war will be in a better position than at present to settle the currency question and readjust the financial system or solid foundations. The Madrid Government is placing treasury notes as a temporary expedient and is consulting with bankers respecting a popular loan. Financiers here assume that when these resources have failed payments on the external debt will be suspended, and \$10,000,000 will be saved monthly for war expenses. Mr.